Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended)   A <u>computer-implemented</u> method for composing a pronunciation of a portion of text by generating pronunciation information, the method comprising:

graphically presenting at least one activatable visual identifier corresponding to individual ones of a plurality of phonemes;

responsive to a selection of one of said visual identifiers, generating said pronunciation information in accordance with said selected visual identifier, said pronunciation information comprising at least one ~~phoneme from said plurality of phonemes and at least one additional pronunciation parameter~~ <u>of a phoneme selected from said plurality of phonemes, an ordering of selected phonemes, a pronunciation stress parameter, and a prosodic parameter</u>;

enabling a user to compose said pronunciation <u>by selectively performing at least one of adding a particular one of the plurality of phonemes and removing a particular one of the plurality of phonemes, said user's performance selection being</u> based upon said pronunciation information and based upon at least one of an audible rendering of a portion of said pronunciation <u>during said user's composing said pronunciation and without compiling said pronunciation information</u>, an audible rendering of an exemplary word illustrative of a particular phoneme, and a visual rendering of an exemplary word illustrative of the particular phoneme; and

compiling said pronunciation information responsive to a selection of one of said plurality of visual identifiers.

2

Appln. No. 10/007,615
Amendment dated Aug. 29, 2005
Reply to Final Office Action of April 28, 2005
Docket No. BOC9-2001-0039 (284)

2.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, said generating step comprising:

identifying at least one phoneme associated with said selected visual identifier and inserting said identified at least one phoneme into said pronunciation information based on an audible rendering of a portion of said pronunciation during said user's composing said pronunciation and without compiling said pronunciation information.

3.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, said generating step comprising:

identifying at least one phoneme associated with said selected visual identifier and removing said identified at least one phoneme from said pronunciation information based on an audible rendering of a portion of said pronunciation during said user's composing said pronunciation and without compiling said pronunciation information.

4.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein said pronunciation information comprises a plurality of phonemes, said generating step comprising:

reordering said plurality of phonemes of said pronunciation information.

5.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein said generating step comprises:

changing said at least one pronunciation parameter of said pronunciation information by changing at least one of a phoneme selected from said plurality of phonemes, an ordering of selected phonemes, a pronunciation stress parameter, and a prosodic parameter.

3

(WP249463;1)

Appln. No. 10/007,615
Amendment dated Aug. 29, 2005
Reply to Final Office Action of April 28, 2005
Docket No. BOC9-2001-0039 (284)

6.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim [[5]] 1, wherein said ~~at least one additional pronunciation parameter is selected from the group consisting of~~ pronunciation information comprises a stress parameter and a prosodic parameter.

7.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

playing an audio approximation of said pronunciation information responsive to a selection of one of said plurality of visual identifiers.

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of phonemes includes phonemes from at least two languages.

9.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

storing said pronunciation information in a memory.

10.   (Currently Amended)   A pronunciation composition tool comprising:

a library comprising a plurality of phonemes;

a graphical user interface comprising a plurality of activatable visual identifiers corresponding to particular ones of said plurality of phonemes; and

a processor configured to generate pronunciation information by including selected ones of said plurality of phonemes from said library responsive to a selection of at least one of said activatable visual identifiers and by enabling a user to compose said pronunciation by selectively causing said processor to perform at least one operation of adding a particular one of the plurality of phonemes and removing a particular one of the plurality of phonemes, said user causing said processor to perform at least one operation based upon said pronunciation information and at least one of ~~an additional pronunciation parameter~~ an audible rendering of a portion of said pronunciation during said user's

4

{WP249463;1}

composing said pronunciation and without compiling said pronunciation information, an audible rendering of an exemplary word illustrative of a particular phoneme, and a visual rendering of an exemplary word illustrative of the particular phoneme.

11. (Original) The pronunciation tool of claim 10, further comprising:

a text-to-speech system configured to play an audio approximation of said pronunciation information responsive to activation of one of said activatable visual identifiers.

12. (Original) The pronunciation composition tool of claim 10, further comprising:

a compiler configured to compile said pronunciation information for use with a speech driven application.

13. (Original) The pronunciation composition tool of claim 10, wherein said processor is further configured to modify said pronunciation information.

14. (Original) The pronunciation tool of claim 10, wherein said plurality of phonemes comprise phonemes corresponding to at least two languages.

15. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

graphically presenting at least one activatable visual identifier corresponding to individual ones of a plurality of phonemes;

5

{WP249463:1}

responsive to a selection of one of said visual identifiers, generating said pronunciation information in accordance with said selected visual identifier, said pronunciation information comprising at least one ~~phoneme from said plurality of phonemes and at least one additional pronunciation parameter~~ of a phoneme selected from said plurality of phonemes, an ordering of selected phonemes, a stress parameter, and a prosodic parameter;

enabling a user to compose said pronunciation by selectively performing at least one of adding a particular one of the plurality of phonemes and removing a particular one of the plurality of phonemes, said user's performance selection being based upon said pronunciation information and based upon at least one of an audible rendering of a portion of said pronunciation during said user's composing said pronunciation, an audible rendering of an exemplary word illustrative of a particular phoneme, and a visual rendering of an exemplary word illustrative of the particular phoneme; and

compiling said pronunciation information responsive to a selection of one of said plurality of visual identifiers.

16. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable storage of claim 15, said generating step comprising:

identifying at least one phoneme associated with said selected visual identifier and inserting said identified at least one phoneme into said pronunciation information based on an audible rendering of a portion of said pronunciation during said user's composing said pronunciation and without compiling said pronunciation information.

17. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable storage of claim 15, said generating step comprising:

6

{WP240463;1}

Appln. No. 10/007,615
Amendment dated Aug. 29, 2005
Reply to Final Office Action of April 28, 2005
Docket No. BOC9-2001-0039 (284)

identifying at least one phoneme associated with said selected visual identifier and removing said identified at least one phoneme from said pronunciation information based on an audible rendering of a portion of said pronunciation during said user's composing said pronunciation and without compiling said pronunciation information.

18. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 15, wherein said pronunciation information comprises a plurality of phonemes, said generating step comprising:

reordering said plurality of phonemes of said pronunciation information.

19. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage of claim 15, wherein said modifying step comprises:

changing said at least one additional pronunciation parameter of said pronunciation information by changing at least one of a phoneme selected from said plurality of phonemes, an ordering of selected phonemes, a pronunciation stress parameter, and a prosodic parameter.

20. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage of claim [[19]] 15, wherein said at least one additional pronunciation parameter is selected from the group consisting of pronunciation information comprises a stress parameter and a prosodic parameter.

21. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 15, further comprising:

playing an audio approximation of said pronunciation information responsive to a selection of one of said plurality of visual identifiers.

7

(WP249463;1)

Appln. No. 10/007,615
Amendment dated Aug. 29, 2005
Reply to Final Office Action of April 28, 2005
Docket No. BOC9-2001-0039 (284)

22.   (Original)   The machine-readable storage of claim 15, wherein said plurality of phonemes include phonemes from at least two languages.

23.   (Original)   The machine-readable storage of claim 15, further comprising: storing said pronunciation information in a memory.

8